

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01276 041516Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /079 W
-----118128 050614Z /11

R 041320Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 356

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1276

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, KU, UNSC
SUBJECT: KUWAITI ROLE IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL

1. KUWAIT HAVING JOINED THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR THE FIRST TIME, IT MAY BE USEFUL FOR EMBASSY AND USUN TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE KUWAITI ROLE THERE AND ON KUWAITI PERM REP BISHARA, TO ENABLE US TO BETTER SUPPORT USUN WHEN THE NEED ARISES.

2. KUWAIT USUALLY HAS USED THE UN AS A FORUM TO POLISH ITS NON-ALIGNED AND THIRD WORLD CREDENTIALS. THIS IS NOT AN EASY JOB, GIVEN KUWAITI WEALTH, FINANCIAL LINKS TO THE WEST AND BASICALLY CAPITALIST OUTLOOK, BUT THE KUWAITIS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN THAT THEY ARE RARELY CRITICIZED PUBLICLY BY THIRD WORLD OR NON-ALIGNED SPOKESMEN. (THERE IS OCCASIONAL RESENTMENT WHEN, IN THE COURSE OF BILATERAL GIVE AND TAKE, THE GOK IS SEEN TO BE TOO STINGY WITH ITS MONEY OR TOO FUSSY ABOUT HOW ITS LOANS ARE SPENT.). ON POLITICAL ISSUES, KUWAITI SKIRTS ARE KEPT SCRUPULOUSLY CLEAN-KUWAITI REPRESENTATIVES SAY THE THINGS AND PROVIDE THE VOTES WHICH WILL CAUSE THE GOK THE FEWEST PROBLEMS WITH ARAB AND NON-ALIGNED/THIRD WORLD GOVERNMENTS. KUWAIT USUALLY FOLLOWS WHATEVER CONSENSUS IS DEVELOPED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 01276 041516Z

AMONG SUCH GOVERNMENTS ON MAJOR ISSUES, NOT ONLY IN THE ARAB WORLD BUT WORLD WIDE, A STRATEGY ARISING FROM A FEELING OF VULNERABILITY TO POLITICAL AND SECURITY THREATS, PRINCIPALLY FROM RADICAL FORCES IN THE ARAB WORLD.

3. IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THE KUWAITIS WILL FEEL EVEN MORE EXPOSED TO THE CRITICAL GAZE OF A NON-ALIGNED/THIRD

WORLD "CONSTITUENCY"; AND IN FAST-MOVING SITUATIONS IN THE COUNCIL, PERM REP BISHARA WILL FEEL (AND BE) FREE TO DO WHAT HE SEES FIT, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE GOK, UNLESS INSTRUCTED OTHERWISE. THESE FACTORS WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE EMBASSY TO INFLUENCE KEY KUWAITI VOTES AND STATEMENTS, EVEN IF WE ARE GIVEN MAXIMUM WARNING TIME AND ARE WELL FILLED IN ON THE BACKGROUND OF COUNCIL ISSUES AS THEY DEVELOP AND AS USUN PERCEIVES BISHARA'S APPROACHES TO THEM. IN LIGHT OF BISHARA'S AUTONOMY, AND BECAUSE KUWAIT IS NOW ON THE COUNCIL, WE WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO CARRY ON A MORE INTENSIVE AND HIGHER LEVEL DIALOGUE HERE WITH THE MFA ON UN POLITICAL MATTERS, IN ORDER BOTH TO LET THE KUWAITIS KNOW THAT WE ARE CONCERNED AND TO BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO EXERT INFLUENCE WHEN NECESSARY.

4. IN ORDER TO DO THIS, WE ASK THAT USUN SHARE WITH US TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE INFORMATION ON MATTERS IN WHICH THE ROLE OF THE KUWAITI DEL MAY HAVE SOME SIGNIFICANCE. DESPITE ABOVEMENTIONED FLEXIBILITY ACCORDED BISHARA, WE WOULD HOPE, IF ADVISED EARLY ENOUGH, TO TRY TO SUPPORT USUN EFFORTS IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THOUGH BISHARA IS A PROTEGE OF THE DEP PRI MIN/ FONMIN AND HAS LONG EXPERIENCE IN MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS, HE IS NOT A POLITICAL POWER HERE AND HIS OCCASIONAL LACK OF JUDGMENT OR TACT HAS COME TO MFA NOTICE MORE THAN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KUWAIT 01276 041516Z

ONCE. THERE MAY BE FACTORS OF WHICH WE ARE NOW UNAWARE THAT COULD BE USED TO GOOD ADVANTAGE WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN IN THE COUNCIL.
MAESTRONE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KUWAIT01276
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780099-1299
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803106/aaaadmhl.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cc4d7bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3116853
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAITI ROLE IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL
TAGS: PORG, KU, UNSC
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cc4d7bb8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014